

AA-123  
Trusty Friend  
Jessup

c. 1870's  
private

Trusty Friend is the only one of the six or more dwellings built in Jessup in the Italian Villa style to be standing with its cupola intact. The structure is rectangular, two-story, five -bay by two-bay frame dwelling with a two-story wing on the rear. The balcony on the front of the house has double round-arched windows behind it.

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

"Trusty Friend"

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

south side Jessup Rd. (Rt. 175) between Sellner and Brock Bridge Rd.

CITY, TOWN

Jessup

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1

STATE

MD.

COUNTY

Anne Arundel

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES RESTRICTED☐ YES UNRESTRICTED☒ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Elizabeth Brown

Telephone #: 799-3465

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Jessup

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Md. 20794

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE Anne Arundel County Courthouse  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #: 208

Folio #: 118

STREET &amp; NUMBER

South St.

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

MD

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

AQ-123

**CONDITION**

☐ EXCELLENT  
☒ GOOD  
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE**

☒ UNALTERED  
☐ ALTERED

**CHECK ONE**

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

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Trusty Friend is located on the south side of Jessup Rd. (Rt. 175) between Sellner and Brock Bridge Rd., facing north. Built c. 1860-1870 in the Italian Villa style, the house retains its original cupola with a finial on the top.

The structure is a rectangular, two story, five bay by two bay, frame dwelling with a two story wing on the rear, giving it an L shape. It is covered with light grey asbestos shingles and the foundation is local Baritan sandstone. A one story kitchen was added at the rear of the wing in the 1920's.

Windows are spaced evenly on the front elevation. Taller on the first than on the second story, they 6/6 light sash. The double round arched windows in the center of the second story have curved muntins at the top of the upper sashes. In the gable ends of the attic are circular windows. The wing has a row of small attic windows above the second story.

The main entrance is in the center bay, front elevation. The double doors are crained and have deeply molded rectangular panels with curvilinear ends; a brass plaque on the east door gives the names of the last three owners. The doors are surrounded by a four-light transom and sidelights; French doors are in front of them.

A five bay porch with a low hipped roof supported by columns extends across the front elevation. Large cast iron urns are on either side of the porch steps. A small balcony on top of the porch is centered under two, tall, round arched windows.

The front of the house has a gable roof with a center gable, and the wing has a lower gable roof. Covered with asbestos shingles, both have wide fascia boards and wide eaves. The center gable, front elevation, is decorated with a delicate verge board. The rectangular cupola crowning the roof has triple round arched windows in each side and its low pyramidal roof is supported by corner bracket and topped by a finial. The main block has one corbelled chimney on the south east slope of the roof. An identical chimney- serving the parlor and the dinning room- is on the north west slope of the wing's roof, another smaller chimney is on the rear of the wing.

Interior: The front of the house has a center hall plan with a parlor and a sitting room (now a bedroom) on either side. The stairs on the east wall of the hall which ascend to the third floor are open strin with decorated step ends; they have a turned newel post and a curved handrail. Fireplaces with marble finish s mantels are on the south walls of the front rooms. Doors and windows

**CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY**

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES C. 1860 - 1870

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

A vernacular version of an Italian villa, Trusty Friend is a frame, two story, five bay by two bay dwelling standing in a park like setting, surrounded by tall trees. Clearly visible from Rt. 175, the house was built C.1860-1870. It takes its name from the tract of land on which it is located which was part of a 3,050 acre patent to Charles Carroll in 1753.

The house has several notable features typical of the Italian Villa style: it is crowned with a tall rectangular cupola having triple round arched windows on all sides and a bracketed pyramidal roof; the double round arched windows in the center bay, second story, have a balustraded balcony in front of them, and there is a veranda across the front. The existence of the cupola is the most significant feature of the house for in many cases cupolas were removed for safety or because they were no longer in style.

Trusty Friend is one of three frame dwelling in Jessup today which were built in the Italian Villa style. Other examples are the Asa Linthicum House (AA-91) and the Ringgold House (AA-92); the Rappaport House (AA-82) is a site. At one time the town contained six or more dwellings of similar design with either cupolas or towers. Some of these are pictured in The Story of Jessup by Marie G. Biggs. A photograph of the Rappaport House taken in 1975 shows that with the exception of a few small details it was identical to Trusty Friend. Both houses were probably built by or for members of the Clark family, possibly Amos Clark. The name B.J. Clark appears at this location on the 1860 Martinet Map, whereas E. Clark appears at the same location in 1878 in the Hopkin Atlas of Anne Arundel County.

The Italianate style of Trusty Friend and the other Jessup houses reflect the wide influence and popularity of designs by John Notman- the first American architect to build in this style- and Alexander Jackson Davis whose picturesque drawings were published in Cottage Residences (1842) and The Architecture of Country Houses (1850) by Andrew Jackson Downing. It appears that the style never really caught on in the rest of the county, making a house such as Trusty Friend all the more unusual and valuable.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Biggs, G. Marie, The Story of Jessup, Jessup, Md. By the author, 1977  
 Martenet, 1860 Map of Anne Arundel County  
 Hopkins, G.M., Atlas of Anne Arundel County, 1878

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 127.78

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Marion Morton Carroll-Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Anne Arundel County Dept. of Planning and Zoning

DATE

June, 1978

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Arundel Center

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

MD.

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
 The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
 (301) 267-1438

## 7 Description cont.

have architrave framing. The upstairs chambers, opening off a wide hall with access to a balcony, have simple wood mantels. The ell is entered from the east elevation or from the hall, it consists of two rooms separated by a hall with enclosed stairs. The walls of the south room (the old kitchen) are covered with tongue and groove boards. A large fireplace with a segmental arched opening and a plain pine (?) mantel shelf are on the south wall; next to it is a paneled cupboard. The doors and windows have slightly pedimented enframements. The north room, used as a dining room, has the same trim, and the closed fireplace on the north wall has a plain wood mantel. The second floor of the wing is considerably lower than the second floor of the front of the house. This <sup>feature</sup> fact together with the large cooking fireplace in the south room and the basement which underlies the wing displaying a combination of hand hewn and mill work lumber makes it appear the wing might have evolved from an earlier structure.

## A Partial Chain of Title

208      118      Sept 9, 1939  
Grantor: Sarah Francis Clark and Plummer A. Clark, her husband  
Grantee: Elizabeth White Brown

WNW      197      Oct. 22, 1919  
Grantor: Charles G. Sommers, Jr.  
Grantee: S. Francis Clark


GW2      205      May 11, 1896  
Grantor: Thomas L. Clark  
Grantee: Charles G. Summers

SH 45      284      December 28, 1893  
Grantor: Amos Clark and William  
Grantee: Thomas Clark  
137 acres, part of a tract of land called Trusty Friend which  
was conveyed by Amos Clark and wife in trust to Joseph Clark.  
Plat recorded with this deed.

NH67      453      November 4, 1858  
Grantors: Amos and Eliza Clark  
Grantee: Joseph Clark

AA-123

021235604

1. STATE <b>Maryland</b> COUNTY <b>Anne Arundel</b> TOWN _____ VICINITY _____ STREET NO. _____  ORIGINAL OWNER _____ ORIGINAL USE _____ PRESENT OWNER <b>Warren Baniford</b> PRESENT USE _____ WALL CONSTRUCTION _____ NO. OF STORIES _____		HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY AA-VII-123  2. NAME <b>Linden Grove or Friend's Choice</b> DATE OR PERIOD <b>White Chimney</b> STYLE _____ ARCHITECT _____ BUILDER <b>Trusty Friend</b>  3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE _____	
4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION <span style="float: right;">OPEN TO PUBLIC</span>  <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>tiny window in loft, 2 chimneys and pent    3 bays    shed dormer</p> <p>white    gambrel roof    white frame</p> <p>shack behind is abandoned</p> </div>			
5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE    Endangered    Interior    Exterior			
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div>  <p>7.5 map O.K. field</p> </div> <div> <p>6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)</p> </div> <div> <p>7. PHOTOGRAPH NO</p> </div> </div>			
8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.		9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER  <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Orlando Kidout IV</p> </div>	
		DATE OF RECORD <b>1/14/70</b>	

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE





AA-123

Trusty Friend

Jessup

north front  
Marion Carroll

July, 1978



AA - 123

Trusty Friend  
Jessup

S.E. elev.

Marion Carroll

Sept. 1978



AA - 123

Trusty Friend  
Jessup

S. west elev.

Marion Carroll

Sept. 1978